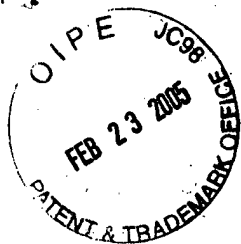


JPW



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 6556.0039

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

John POLK et al.

Application No.: 10/043,493

Filed: January 14, 2002

For: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR  
PROVIDING A PAYMENT SYSTEM  
OVER A NETWORK

)  
)  
) Group Art Unit: 2165  
)  
) Examiner: Unassigned  
)  
) Confirmation No.: 9208  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**STATUS INQUIRY**

According to our records, the above-identified application was filed on January 14, 2002. To date, Applicants have not received a first Office Action on the merits.

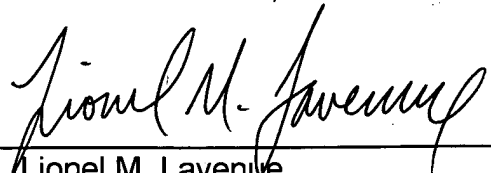
The undersigned attorney respectfully requests that the Office advise him of the status of this application as soon as possible in order to determine whether further action by the applicants is required at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 23, 2005

By:

  
Lionel M. Lavenue  
Reg. No. 46,859